



Attorney Docket No.: 18733/00040

3682
L. Nelson
#4/IDS
8-13-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of: Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO, and
Yasushi WATANABE

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A HOLLOW
RACK SHAFT

U.S. Serial No. 09/803,560

Filed: March 9, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3682

Examiner: To Be Assigned

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Assistant Director
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

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Date of Deposit

JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. Williams
Signature

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Date of Signature

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following item to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The reference cited below is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an

Serial No. 09/803,560

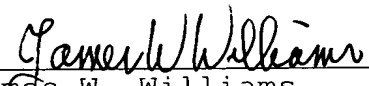
admission that the item listed below is properly citable against the above-identified application.

- (1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent
Application No. (A) 11-278287 (FUJI KIKO CO
LTD), published October 12, 1999.

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited document.

As this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,


James W. Williams
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Attorney for Applicants

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July 30, 2001